

# GREENBELT News Review

An Independent Newspaper

Inside Stories



GMS Mental Health Walk, p.8 Green Man Festival Photos, p.16

VOL. 87, No. 26

15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770-1887

MAY 16, 2024

## Copland's Greenbelt Theme Plays Live, May 21, June 2

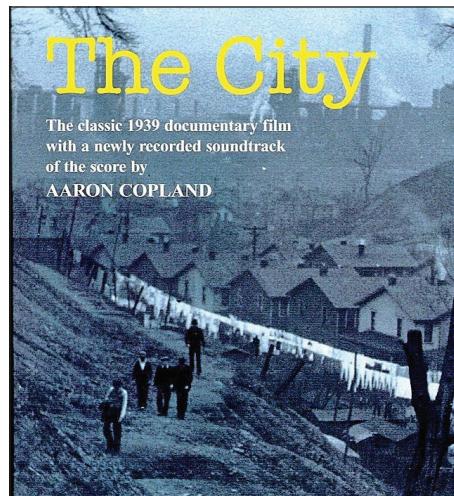
by Melissa Sites

Astonishing as it is to learn, a famous American composer wrote a theme song especially for Greenbelt.

In the 1930s, the federal government hired artists and incorporated their work into the efforts of the New Deal. For a promotional film called *The City*, Aaron Copland wrote the score. Key scenes of the movie were filmed in Greenbelt during the summer of 1938 – children riding their bikes, playing and swimming in the lake.

Greenbelt Cinema will host a ticketed showing of the film on Tuesday, May 21, and a small group of musicians from the Greenbelt Community Orchestra will play themes from Copland's score. The entire suite of eight themes consists of 20 minutes of music, from which the film editors cut the soundtrack. The themes are entitled: New England Countryside, The Steel Mill, Sorrow of the City, Fire Engines (at lunch), Taxi Jam, Sunday Traffic, The New City and The Children. Sheila Maffay-Tuthill from the Greenbelt Museum will speak about the history of the film.

Orchestra conductor Derek



Maseloff described Copland's Greenbelt theme as pleasant and bucolic. Greenbelt is portrayed as a utopian New City, "where everything is fun, and we hang out with our neighbors." "This sort of characteristic still exists in Greenbelt," said Maseloff. He described The Children as a different musical theme, more grand and sweeping, suggesting that, "It's up to the children to design the city of the future."

Orchestra members watched a screening of the film, which can also be seen on DVD (available at the Greenbelt Museum). "The

See **THE CITY**, page 12

## Tortuous Recovery from Covid Triples Cinema's Budget Ask

by Cathie Meetre



PHOTO COURTESY GREENBELT CINEMA

Children enjoy the Lost World workshop at the Greenbelt Cinema led by Greenbelt Access Television.

### Boost Requested

The Cinema is requesting a significant increase in the subsidy from the city, which has been, for several years and projected for FY 2025, \$50,000. The Cinema now requests \$150,000. McGrath said the larger amount was not one she expected would be needed going forward, but was

See **CINEMA**, page 13

Mayor Emmett Jordan welcomed Greenbelt Cinema Director Caitlin McGrath and Board Chair Cathy Jones to a worksession discussion of the Greenbelt Cinema's Fiscal Year 2025 budget. McGrath noted that they were now in the 10th year of operation since the city awarded the non-profit group stewardship of the Old Greenbelt Theatre, recently rebranded as Greenbelt Cinema.

## Farmers Market Reopens With New and Old Vendors

by Cathie Meetre

Big splashy raindrops only briefly deterred the crowds anxious to sample the delicious wares of this season's Farmers Market before they returned to mop up fresh greens and wholesome goodies and treats. Sheltering from the sudden rain under the New Deal Café's canopy, market shoppers conversed with friends and neighbors again encountered with the opening of the market. When the clouds cleared and the sun came out, the market was again in full swing.

### Full or Part-Time

This year offers an even wider variety of vendors than previously. With limited space in the parking lot, the Farmers Market board has cannily integrated multiple vendors, some full-time and some on specific weeks. The market's website ([greenbeltfarmersmarket.org](http://greenbeltfarmersmarket.org)) shows which vendors come which weeks. Some are just one week a month – so plan ahead. But just showing up will be rewarded with a wide variety of choices ranging from staples to surprises.

### They're Back

Many vendors who have graced the market for a decade or more so value its friendly feel and meticulous organization that they just can't help reappearing season after season, year after year. Three Springs Fruit Farm, Pat Hochmuth, Two Oceans, Zeke's Coffee, Stone Hearth

See **MARKET**, page 16

### Metrobus Routes Remain for Now

The Fiscal Year 2025 budget for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) does not include the proposed cuts of some Metrobus routes, including the G12 route between the Greenbelt and New Carrollton Metro stations. Maryland, Virginia and the District of Columbia all increased their contributions to Metro and WMATA was able to find cost-saving efficiencies that allow bus and rail service to be maintained at current levels. However, there will be a 12.5 percent increase in fares, starting July 1, 2024, with bus fares and base rail fares increasing to \$2.25. The maximum rail fare will increase from \$6 to \$6.75.

WMATA does plan to begin implementation of their Better Bus Network program ([wmata.com/initiatives/plans/Better-Bus](http://wmata.com/initiatives/plans/Better-Bus)) in FY25. This likely will result in the renaming of bus routes and some schedule adjustments, including to the bus routes that serve Greenbelt. See [betterbus.wmata.com](http://betterbus.wmata.com). Stay tuned.



PHOTO BY RAY ZAMMUTO

The Greenbelt Farmers Market reopened on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12.

## Charlestowne North Apartments Bought at Auction by Freddie Mac

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

On April 29, an auction was held to sell the Charlestowne North Apartments at 8150 Lakecrest Drive, an apartment complex that has been in receivership since February. Paul Cooper, vice president of the auction house conducting the sale, told the News Review the property was sold to the lender Freddie Mac. Last week Freddie Mac confirmed to the city that they were the winning bidder on the foreclosure sale. However, they said, the sale will not be ratified for approximately 45 to 60

days and, in the meantime, the receiver will remain in place.

Freddie Mac filed for foreclosure and emergency receivership against the building owner on January 31 and February 2, 2024. The receivership was broadly celebrated by residents and city officials, following ongoing problems and code violations at the property since it was bought by Charlestowne North Holding Company LLC in 2023. Now that Freddie Mac is the property's owner as well as lender, it's expected they will eventually sell the property, perhaps after some work.

"Right now the property has a lot of issues," said City Manager Josué Salmerón. It would be unique if the lender was to become the long-term owner, he told the News Review.

"To me it's not bad news," said Salmerón who spoke of a good working relationship already in place with Freddie Mac. They have regular check-ins and inspections and are meeting goals, deadlines and expectations, he told the News Review. "We welcome a new owner that will be invested in the property and tenants and in Greenbelt."

### What Goes On

**Monday, May 20**  
7:30 p.m., City Council Worksession: WSSC, Municipal Building

**Wednesday, May 22**  
7:30 p.m., ACE Student Awards, followed by Council Special Meeting/Closed Session, Municipal Building

See the meetings calendar on page 5 or visit [greenbeltdmd.gov](http://greenbeltdmd.gov) for more information.

# Letters to the Editor

## Agree with DEI Audit

I read the DEI audit and found myself nodding my head in agreement with its findings. I worked for the City of Greenbelt Department of Public Works from 2018 to 2022, first as the environmental coordinator and then as the horticultural crew supervisor. The DEI audit is bringing to light issues that were present when I was a city employee and factored

into my decision to leave. It appears nothing changed after I left. I hope the city council takes this opportunity to seriously consider and address the issues raised in the audit. Given my experience they will not, and it will simply be another study that taxpayer money is wasted on because it told the city council what it does not want to hear.

Jason Martin



**The Bus**  
Seniors, Children with School ID  
and Customers with  
Disabilities RIDE FREE



## On Screen at Greenbelt Cinema

### The Beast

The year is 2044: artificial intelligence controls all facets of a stoic society as humans routinely “erase” their feelings. Hoping to eliminate pain caused by their past-life romances, Gabrielle (Léa Seydoux) continually falls in love with different incarnations of Louis (George MacKay). In Belle Époque-era Paris, Louis is a British man who woos her away from a cold husband, then in early 21st century Los Angeles, he is a disturbed American bent on delivering violent “retribution.” Will the process allow Gabrielle to fully connect with Louis in the present, or are the two doomed to repeat their previous fates?

### La Chimera

Everyone has their own Chimera, something they try to achieve but never manage to find. For the band of tombaroli, thieves of ancient grave goods and archaeological wonders, the Chimera means redemption from work and the dream of easy wealth. For Arthur, the Chimera looks like the woman he lost, Beniamina. To find her, Arthur challenges the invisible, searches everywhere, goes inside the earth – in search of the door to the afterlife of which myths speak. In an adventurous journey between the living and the dead, between forests and cities, between celebrations and solitudes, the intertwined destinies of these characters unfold, all in search of the Chimera.

### Nowhere Special

When single father John is given only a few months left to live, he tries to find the perfect family for his young son while shielding the boy from the terrible reality of the situation. As he struggles to find the right answer for the impossible task, he meets a social worker who opens him up to solutions he never would have considered.

### Suzume

In this animated fantasy, 17-year-old Suzume’s journey begins in a quiet town in Kyushu when she encounters a young man who tells her, “I’m looking for a door.” What Suzume finds is a single weathered door standing upright in the midst of ruins as though it was shielded from whatever catastrophe struck. Seemingly drawn by its power, Suzume reaches for the knob. Doors begin to open one after another all across Japan, unleashing destruction upon any who are near. Suzume must close these portals to prevent further disaster.

### The City

The City is a pioneering short documentary film from 1939 that contrasts the problems of the contemporary urban environment with the superior social and physical conditions that can be provided in a planned community. Filmed partly in Greenbelt, it was directed and photographed by Ralph Steiner and Willard Van Dyke based on a treatment by Lewis Mumford, which was in turn based on an outline by Pare Lorentz. Aaron Copland wrote the musical score, and Morris Carnovsky provided the narration.

## Drop Us a Line!

Electronically, that is.  
editor@  
greenbeltnewsreview.com



Greenbelt Cinema  
129 Centerway  
301-329-2034

[www.greenbeltcinema.org](http://www.greenbeltcinema.org)

Members Always \$6.50!  
Member kids are always FREE!

Adults \$9, Kids \$6,  
Senior/Student/Military \$8

All shows before 5 PM:  
Adults \$7, Kids \$5

**OC = Open Captions**

**CC = Closed Captions**

**DVS = Descriptive Video Service**

**SHOWTIMES:**  
**MAY 17th - 23rd**

#### The Beast

(NR) (2024) (146 mins)  
French w/ English subtitles

**Screen 1** - Main Auditorium

Sat. 8:00 PM

Mon. 1:45 PM

Wed. 7:30 PM

**Screen 2** - The Screening Room

Fri. 8:00 PM

Sat. 5:00 PM

Sun. 2:00 PM

Tues. 5:00 PM

Thurs. 8:00 PM

#### La Chimera

(NR) (2024) (130 mins)  
Italian w/ English subtitles

**Screen 1** - Main Auditorium

Fri. 7:45 PM

Sat. 5:15 PM

Sun. 5:00 PM

Mon. 5:00 PM

**Screen 2** - The Screening Room

Fri. 5:00 PM

Mon. 2:00 PM

Tues. 8:00 PM

Wed. 7:45 PM

Thurs. 5:00 PM

#### Nowhere Special

(NR) (CC) (2024) (113 mins)

**Screen 1** - Main Auditorium

Fri. 5:15 PM

Sun. 2:15 PM (OC)

Tues. 4:15 PM

Wed. 5:00 PM

Thurs. 4:45 PM

**Screen 2** - The Screening Room

Sat. 8:15 PM

Sun. 5:15 PM

Mon. 5:15 PM

#### Suzume (PG) (CC) (DVS)

(2022) (122 mins)

Cinema Pop! | Dubbed

**Screen 1** - Main Auditorium

Sat. 1:00 PM

#### Storytime on Screen - Free!

**Screen 1** - Main Auditorium

Mon. 10:30 - 11:15 AM

#### The City

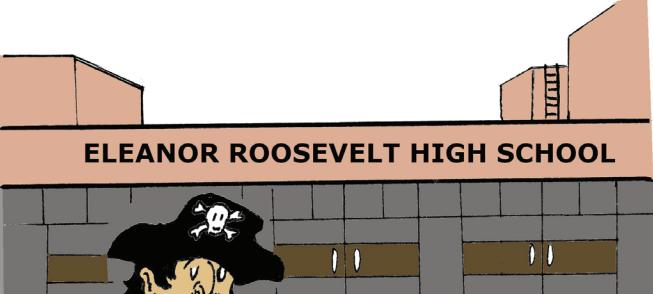
(NR) (1939) (90 mins)

With a short performance by the Greenbelt Community Orchestra

**Screen 1** - Main Auditorium

Tues. 7:30 PM

PETE REPPERT



ELEANOR ROOSEVELT HIGH SCHOOL

GO TEAM GO. GO TEAM GO.  
NOW WHERE'S MY TREAT?

## Letters Policy

Deadline for letters is 6 p.m. Monday. Submission does not guarantee publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words (shorter letters are more likely to be published).

Letters may be edited for clarity, grammar, civility and space constraints. The News Review may add a comment from the editor if deemed necessary.

All letters must include the letter writer's name, physical address, and telephone number. Only the name will be published; the News Review will consider requests for the name to be withheld.



# Greenbelt News Review

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

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#### PUBLICATION DEADLINES:

- Monday 2 p.m. Articles/photos over 700 words, Display ads (not camera ready).
- Monday 6 p.m. All letters to the editor (300 word limit).
- Tuesday 2 p.m. Articles/photos under 700 words, photographs not associated with a story.
- Tuesday 6 p.m. Classified ads and camera-ready display ads.
- Email submission is available. Hardcopy submissions (delivered by respective deadline) may be mailed to the address above or left in the Co-op grocery store drop box or GNR external office door mail slot, as shown below.
- Payment must accompany ads except by prior arrangement.

#### MAIL SUBSCRIPTION: \$55/year

Greenbelt Community Center at 15 Crescent Rd.  
OFFICE HOURS: Monday 2 - 4 p.m., Tuesday 2 - 4, 6 - 8 p.m.  
Office is currently closed to the public. Please phone or email.  
GNR external office door mail slot is located up a few stairs 25 yards left of the Community Center's east door near the municipal building.

# Community Events

## GCDC Meets Tuesday

The Greenbelt Community Development Corporation's (GCDC) next meeting is Tuesday, May 21 from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Community Center, Room 113.

## May Reel and Meal on Indian Beef, Milk Industry

India, the world's most populous country, is the world's largest consumer and exporter of cow's milk. It is also one of the world's largest exporters of beef. Home to 1.1 billion Hindus, cows are considered sacred and killing them is prohibited in most areas of India.

The feature length documentary film title is Ma Ka Doodh, which means Mother's Milk. Two years in the making, it is a thorough, eye-opening and at times humorous behind-the-scenes look at a reality the viewer will want to know more about.

Filmmaker and medical doctor Harsha Akmakuri will be there to discuss the film. He travelled around India to make this poignant film about cows, buffalos and profits, in the process becoming a devoted vegan/vegetarian.

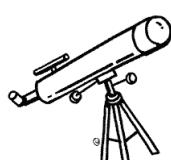
Presented by the Utopia Film Festival, this program lives up to the motto, Seeking a Better World through Film. Attend in person at the Café or online via Zoom. The link to register for Zoom is [tinyurl.com/Reel-and-Meal-May-2024](http://tinyurl.com/Reel-and-Meal-May-2024).

For more information, visit the Reel and Meal Facebook page, the New Deal Café website or call Frank at 301-467-2418.

## Star Party Saturday

Weather permitting, the Astronomical Society of Greenbelt will host a star party this Saturday, May 18 at 9:30 pm, for two hours at the City of Greenbelt Observatory. The observatory telescope and camera will focus on deep-sky objects such as galaxies, nebulae and star clusters currently high in the sky. Star parties are free and are open to everyone.

As always, members and visitors are welcome to set up telescopes on the hilltop in front of the observatory. Park in the ballfield lot, not up on the hill, unless bringing a telescope. People with mobility issues are also welcome to park on the hill. The star party will be canceled without notice if it is hopelessly cloudy.



**Greenbelt Access Television**  
**May 18, Sat - May 24, Fri**  
Verizon FIOS Channel 19 • Comcast 77  
(School Programming on Your Cable Guide)  
Streaming on [www.greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://www.greenbeltaccessstv.org)

THIS WEEK on GATE • Your Community Access Station

Featured Film (9am, 3pm, and 8pm)

### Utopia Film Festival Selections (2023)

This feature highlights two films about three South American rivers. Tales of the Boiling River explores the legend of the "Shanay-timpishka", a boiling river in the Amazon. In Dos Ríos (Two Rivers), two environmentalist women, one in Guatemala and one in Honduras, are brought together in their defense of their countries' rivers.

New This Month

### The Lost World Claymation Workshop Premiere

Be sure to catch the premiere of the Claymation masterpiece students created on May 4th for Greenbelt Cinema's special screening of *The Lost World!*

All this and more on the GATE channel this week! Check [greenbeltaccessstv.org](http://greenbeltaccessstv.org) for the full broadcast schedule, and visit Greenbelt Access Television on YouTube for new video productions.

## Community Forum On Race Relations

All Greenbelt residents are invited to a community forum to help create a progress report to assess race relations in the city. The annual George Floyd Remembrance event, Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges, will be held on Sunday, May 19 at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center from 2 to 3:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by Connecting Across Greenbelt, CHEARS, Greenbelt Interfaith Leadership Association, Greenbelt Racial Equity Alliance, The SPACE: Free Art For All, Baha'i's of Greenbelt, Prince George's Peace and Justice Coalition, Greenbelt Voices Rising and Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness.

## Complexities of Aging Forum on Sat., June 1

The Greenbelt Senior Citizens Advisory Committee is holding its 2024 Not for Seniors Only educational presentation for people of all ages on Saturday, June 1 at 1 p.m. in Room 201 of the Community Center. The event is titled Navigating the Complexities of Aging and will feature two speakers. Geriatrics specialist Ann Craynon will address How a Healthcare Advocate can Facilitate a Positive Outcome. She will discuss how to take an active role in an individual's medical planning and will use a sample case study to demonstrate how a healthcare advocate can help a person get through the maze that is healthcare today. She will speak from 1 to 1:30 p.m.

Attorney Paula M. Mattson-Sarli will speak on why Estate Planning Is Not One Size Fits All. Mattson-Sarli, an accredited attorney with the Veteran's Administration, will talk about current estate law and elder planning, including information gleaned from her extensive experience dealing with clients with armed services backgrounds. She will speak from 1:30 to 2 p.m.

The time remaining will be allocated to audience questions. If there is not enough time during the seminar, both speakers have indicated that they will stay after and answer as many questions as possible.

Registration is not required. For more information, call 240-542-2189.

## Greenbelt Chess Club

The Greenbelt Chess Club meets on Tuesdays, May 21 and 28. The meetings take place in the Youth Center from 6:30 to 8:45 p.m. The club welcomes people of all ages and skill levels.

## The Rudes Abide



PHOTO BY JOHN CHOLD

Jacqueline Youm as Hattie, Sam David as Cleo

Just one more weekend to see The Rudes Abide, the Rude Mechanicals' one-of-a-kind compilation of short plays at the Greenbelt Arts Center.

Three of the four offerings showcase the Rudes' unique approach to their Shakespearean roots. Jaki Demarest reimagines a scene from Coriolanus to envision the titular general and his enemy Aufidius as a reminiscing couple preparing for a party. Liana Olear transports Friar Laurence from Romeo and Juliet into Cymbeline and Much Ado about Nothing, plays that share elements of Juliet's scheme to fake her death via sleeping potion. Sean Eustis brings music and pantomime to a staged reading of Elizabethan poems including Shakespeare's The Phoenix and the Turtle, The Lover's Complaint, and The Pilgrim's Passion. And Joshua Engel diverges from the theme with the D.C.-area premiere of local playwright Claudia Bach's The Insect, an absurdist comedy about two women who encounter a mysterious bug in their home.

The Rude Mechanicals remain dedicated to the health and safety of their troupe and patrons. All Rudes' productions supplement the theater's existing air circulation with additional filters to reduce airborne contaminants.

This event's final shows are 8 p.m. Friday, May 17 and Saturday May 18. Tickets are required. Visit [rudemechanicals.com](http://rudemechanicals.com) or [greenbelartscenter.org](http://greenbelartscenter.org) for more information.

## CHEARS Offers Free, Healthy Plant-Based Cooking Series

The Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), with support from the Greenbelt Community Foundation, is offering a six-session Food for Life workshop on nutrition and plant-based cooking. The sessions will offer recipes for those who want to improve their general health; prevent and arrest heart disease, high blood pressure and diabetes; or control their weight. This approach to food will also interest anyone concerned with how lifestyles, industrial farming and overreliance on animal foods contribute to climate change. This unique program will introduce delicious African American Culinary Heritage recipes that inspire healthful eating. A whole-food plant-based diet is a powerful lifestyle tool to prevent and arrest common chronic conditions like high blood pressure, heart disease and Type 2 diabetes.

Classes will be led by Greenbelt resident Geraldine Adams, a certified Food for Life instructor. The program will take place at the Community Center in the kitchen and adjacent dining room/classroom. The sessions are from 6 to 8 p.m. and are offered on Wednesdays May 22, 29, June 5, 12, 19 and 26. Each session features a different topic and participants are encouraged to attend each class. Participants will get to sample all of the delicious foods prepared. There is no fee, rather donations are suggested at the workshop per evening program or for the entire series.

Donations are welcome to help cover the cost of materials, food and to support the project. To register, visit <https://tinyurl.com/bdzpb9hc>. Registration is limited to 20 participants (on a first-come first-served basis).

More Community Events  
are located throughout the paper.

## Greenbelt Arts Mixer At New Deal Sunday

Arts organizations, artists and art enthusiasts are invited to attend an Arts Mixer on Sunday, May 19 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the New Deal Café, hosted by the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board and Friends of New Deal Café Arts. Participants will be invited to socialize, share and discuss arts programs in Greenbelt, as well as connect with other artists in the community. Light refreshments will be served. RSVP (acceptance only) at [signupgenius.com/go/ARTSMIXER](http://signupgenius.com/go/ARTSMIXER).

## Find More Peace Through Meditation

In today's world, many people have trouble falling asleep and feel stress or anxiety. Could meditation help them?

Katrina Boverman, a longtime meditation instructor with the SAGE program, and the Mishkan Torah Synagogue Sisterhood have quietly offered Summer Guided Meditation classes to Greenbelters and others for the past nine years. Although the synagogue itself is a wonderful peaceful setting welcoming to all, meditation this year will be offered via Zoom to attend from the comfort of your own home.

Attendees have expressed quieting of their bodies, minds and spirits, a deepening of inner stillness and a better ability to reconnect with themselves. They have described feeling more peaceful, serene, relaxed, mindful and present, both during and in between the classes. Common experiences outside of the class for participants have been to have greater ease falling asleep and more patience during challenging times.

Classes begin Monday, June 3 from 3:45 to 4:45 p.m. for seven sessions, held every other Monday through August 26. There is no charge; donations are welcome.

For more information email or call [Katrinarboverman@yahoo.com](mailto:Katrinarboverman@yahoo.com) or 301-641-1035.

## This Week at the New Deal Café

SUPPORT Greenbelt's only venue with BOTH dinner AND a show!

RESERVATIONS: 301-474-5642



FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK.

113 Centerway, Roosevelt Center, Greenbelt, MD

Mon/Wed/Th 8am-9pm; Tues 8am-9:30pm; Friday/Saturday 8am – 10pm;  
Sunday 9am – 9pm, UNLESS NOTED.

TH 5/16	FRI 5/17	SAT 5/18	SUN 5/19
FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm  Drag Bingo w/ D'Manda Martini 7-9pm Unlimited bingo!	SWELL Band 7-10pm Unique spin on vintage swing, Latin, 60's soul and more!	POETRY OPEN MIC, 1-3pm  Miles Gannett Band w/ Annie Stokes 7-10pm Cosmic Americana, bluegrass & rock	GREENBELT ARTS MIXER, 1-3pm  Fez Tones Hafla 6-8pm Middle Eastern music and dance

MON 5/20	TUES 5/21	WED 5/22	TH 5/23	SPECIALS!
REEL AND MEAL 7-9pm  VISIT THE NDC WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION	Open Mic w/ Joey Campfire 7-9:30pm Sign ups at 6:30pm.	Reggie Right Eye & the Missing Pieces 7-9pm Blues, roots and more	FRENCH CONVERSATION, 5:30p - 6:30pm  Isn't That So? 7-9pm A collective of DC area musicians	HAPPY HOUR 4-7pm \$1 OFF BEER AND WINE WEDNESDAY \$1 OFF PER GLASS \$5 OFF A BOTTLE

Join NDC! Go to [NewDealCafe\(dot\)com](http://NewDealCafe(dot)com), click on "ABOUT", then "BECOME A MEMBER OR RENEW."

FUNDING FOR THESE ADS PROVIDED BY A GENEROUS DONOR.

THE NDC NEEDS YOUR VOLUNTEER TIME ON COMMITTEES.

Contact: [jbelltower@yahoo.com](mailto:jbelltower@yahoo.com). We promise: It won't hurt!

# Obituaries

## Wendy Osborne

Wendy Bennett Osborne, called "Toodie" by her granddaughters, died early on May 5, 2024. Born in Amityville, Long Island, N.Y., she attended the Dwight School for Girls and Vassar College.

For over 20 years, she made her home in Old Greenbelt. She absolutely loved living here. She made herself a home that made her happy, surrounded by good people, greenery and birds. It is in Greenbelt that she made some of her closest friends, usually based on a shared love of books, food, gardening or birding. Sitting on her porch with an assortment of nibbles and a book or crossword puzzle or a good friend was her idea of heaven. She took pride in the hellebores that she coaxed and nurtured, but could find beauty in the simplest flowers or plants.

An avid reader, her passion for reading and words infused her entire life. She loved to talk about books and share the ones that she felt were particularly good. She could solve the New York Times Sunday crossword puzzle and was rarely stumped. She shared a love of wildflowers and birds with her sister, Betsy, and passed it on to her family.

A lifelong thrift store enthusiast, she delighted in finding treasures and bargains and got just as excited for someone else's good finds. She had a sneaky sense of humor – by turns wicked or goofy, subtle or crass. She was a wonderful gift giver, thoughtful and attentive, with a sweet insight into the people she loved.

She is already tremendously missed by her children Woody and Susan, her granddaughters Lila and Lucy, her son-in-law Mark and her sister Betsy.



## CATHOLIC COMMUNITY OF GREENBELT

### MASS

Sunday 10:00 a.m.  
City Council Room  
25 Crescent Rd

**ALL ARE WELCOME!**

OR - Join us on ZOOM!  
For ZOOM link:  
[CCG1985+owner@groups.io](mailto:CCG1985+owner@groups.io)

## Greenbelt BAPTIST CHURCH

Christ-centered  
Biblical  
& Reformed

Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am

Sunday School 9:15am

Wednesday Night Bible Study 7:00pm

101 Greenhill Rd. Greenbelt, MD  
[www.greenbeltbaptist.org](http://www.greenbeltbaptist.org)



## Jonathan Cohen



PHOTO COURTESY THE FAMILY

Jonathan Cohen

Jonathan David Cohen, 60, beloved husband, father, son, uncle and friend, died suddenly but peacefully on May 8, 2024, at his home in Bowie.

Born on February 29, 1964, Jonny grew up in Greenbelt, finally settling in Bowie in 2002 with wife Diane and daughters Tori and Justine. Family was the most important thing in Jonny's life, followed by his lifelong love of nature, music, sports and

See **OBITUARIES**, page 10

## Mowatt Memorial United Methodist Church

40 Ridge Road, Greenbelt

Open hearts, Open minds, Open doors

Find us on [facebook.com/mowattumc](https://facebook.com/mowattumc)

301-474-9410

Pastor Evelyn Romero  
Worship Service, Sundays 9:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Celebrate hope with us.



The Bible Says...

But now faith, hope, love,  
abide these three;  
but the greatest of these is love.  
1 Corinthians 13:13



Sunday Worship Services

10a-11:15a @ Greenbelt Elementary School  
(66 Ridge Rd.)

[MFCcc.org](http://MFCcc.org)

## St. John's Episcopal Church

11040 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20704  
301-937-4292 [www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org](http://www.saintjohnsbeltsville.org)

Welcomes you each Sunday for  
Worship & Sunday School  
at 10:00 AM

## Greenbelt Community Church

One Hillside Road

We are an  
Open and Affirming  
Church



**Join Us Sunday  
10:15 AM  
for Worship  
and Church School**

[www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD](http://www.facebook.com/GCCUCCMD)

[www.greenbeltcmmchurch.org](http://www.greenbeltcmmchurch.org)

## ST. HUGH OF GRENOBLE CATHOLIC CHURCH

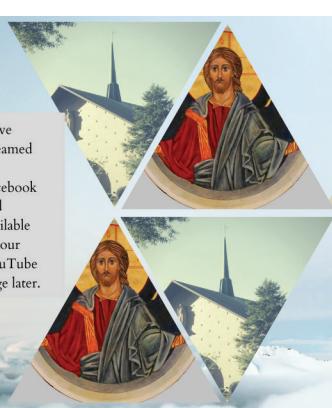
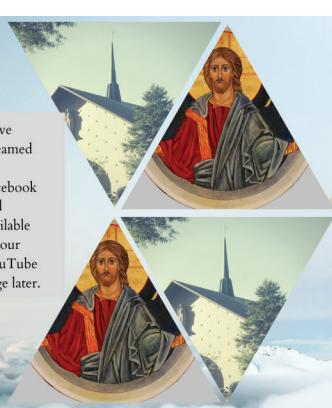
- Daily Mass: Mon-Fri 7:15am\*, Sat 9am\*
- Sunday Mass:
  - Sat vigil 5pm\*
  - Sun 8am, 9:30am, 11am
- Confessions Saturday 3pm - 4pm.

Masks for the unvaccinated encouraged.

CELEBRATE WITH US

135 Crescent Rd.

[www.sthughofgrenoble.org](http://www.sthughofgrenoble.org)



## Our Neighbors

Our condolences to the family, friends and fellow flower aficionados on the death of Wendy Osborne.

Condolences also to the friends and family of Jonathan Cohen. His business JC Landscaping has been a longtime advertiser in the News Review.

The city flag at the Municipal Building is at half staff in honor of Mary Lou Fisher who died on May 4. She directed many theater productions at the Greenbelt Arts Center and other venues. Our condolences to her family and friends.

Congratulations to two Eleanor Roosevelt High School students who won second place in the Maryland History Day State Contest. Joshua Herrera-Guzman's award was in the Senior Individual Exhibit category, on the topic of Birthing of the First Socialist State. Aashi Moola's award was for Senior paper, on the topic of Mosquitos, Medicine and Major Milestones: William Gorgas' Legacy on the Panama Canal. And congratulations also to their teacher, Victoria Patch Williams. The two now move on to the national competition in June.

Congratulations to Greenbelt

Police Officers Sergeant Troy Arnold and Private First Class Daniel Sandoval for graduating the Anne Arundel County Police SWAT School. The intensive three-week training program prepares officers to handle extraordinary police incidents. Sgt. Arnold was recognized as the "Top Operator" for his performance and leadership during the training.

Send details of your news to [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).



Left: Greenbelt Police Chief Richard Bowers poses with PFC Daniel Sandoval and his certificate from the Special Operations Section of the Anne Arundel County Police. Right: Anne Arundel County Special Operations Section Commander Lieutenant Brent Weaver recognizes Sergeant Troy Arnold as the Top Operator for SWAT School Session 18.

- Photos courtesy Greenbelt Police

"The oneness of humanity implies an organic change in the structure of present-day society, a change such as the world has not yet experienced." – Shoghi Effendi

## Greenbelt Bahá'í Community

[www.greenbeltbahais.org](http://www.greenbeltbahais.org)

**Mishkan Torah Congregation**  
10 Ridge Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770  
Rabbi Saul Oresky, Cantor Phil Greenfield  
An unpretentious, historic, welcoming, liberal, egalitarian synagogue that respects tradition and becomes your extended family in the 21st century.

Friday evening services at 8:00pm  
Saturday morning services at 10:00am  
Offering hybrid services, online and in-person activities  
For further information, call (301) 474-4223 [www.mishkantorah.org](http://www.mishkantorah.org)  
Affiliated with these movements: Conservative and Reconstructing Judaism

## Paint Branch Unitarian Universalist Church

Postal address: P.O. Box 676, Laurel, MD 20725  
Phone: 301-937-3666 [www.pbuuc.org](http://www.pbuuc.org)

Welcomes you to our open, nurturing community



May 19, 2024 at 3:00 pm

### An Attitude Of Ultimate Optimism

Rev. Roberta Finkelstein with Worship Associate Jacqui Walpole

May 19th is Whitsunday in the Christian liturgical calendar and Pentecost in the Jewish liturgical calendar. What do the stories of these holidays have to do with us? One of the hallmarks of our faith, according to 20th century UU theologian James Luther Adams, is an attitude of ultimate optimism. This sermon looks at Adams' work and connects it back to the ancient stories about Whitsunday and Pentecost.

Streaming on PBUUC's Facebook page, on Zoom, and in person. Worship service held at University Christian Church, 6800 Adelphi Road, Hyattsville, MD

## ELCA Abiding Presence Lutheran Church

10774 Rhode Island Avenue  
301-937-7646

This Sunday (May 19) Is Pentecost!

[APLChurch.org](http://APLChurch.org)

10:00 am Service

11:00 am Fellowship



Come and Join Us!  
Located in the Beltsville Professional Center

## GCC Will Host Interfaith Speakers

David Alexander, a member of the Greenbelt Community Church (GCC), in his travels has visited monasteries exploring the question of what a pilgrimage means in today's world.

This led Alexander to organize the next Prince George's County Interfaith Conversation on the concept of pilgrimage and what it means to Muslim, Sikh and Christian communities. The speakers are Dr. Aref Dajani, Dr. Hema Sidhu and Reverend Ellen Witko. The event will be held on Monday, June 3 at 7 p.m. at the GCC.

Alexander said he started working on this event after seeing one organized by the Prince George's County Human Rights Office outreach team headed by Kyla Hanington. Hanington was thrilled with the suggestion to hold such an event at GCC. The focus of the interfaith discussions is "to end discrimination before it begins by helping folks build relationships, get to know and understand one another," she said of her office's sponsorship of the interfaith events.

"We are excited about the interfaith series highlighting different voices and perspectives on a variety of themes," she continued. "Our event with GCC focuses on pilgrimage and invites panelists to consider what pilgrimage means for and from their faith perspective and if and how they have experienced pilgrimage in their own lives."

The free June 3 event, open to the public, will be held in GCC's fellowship hall. Light refreshments will be served afterward. GCC is located at 1 Hillside Road. For more information email [office@greenbelucc.org](mailto:office@greenbelucc.org).

## City Notes

The city manager's office held an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) nonprofit grant review meeting, making four grant awards.

The Community Center facilitated a Homeowner's Association Roundtable, GHI's Annual Meeting and a blood drive, and accommodated Concert Band, Golden Age Club, Community Orchestra, Friends of the Greenbelt Museum, Girl Scouts, Arts Center, Public Safety Advisory Committee, Interfaith Leadership and 13 rentals.

The Aquatic & Fitness Center hosted Special Olympics Swim Team practice. At Springhill Lake Recreation Center, RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) and the Greenbelt Library hosted a Pre-K Story Hour. The Museum's lecture on Women in WWII drew 31 attendees.

Park Rangers served permits for a garden club plant sale, a nursery yard sale and a reunion rental.

Greenbelt CARES and the Greenbelt Assistance in Living (GAIL) program offered an advance directive workshop for 12 Green Ridge House residents and participated in the county's Children's Mental Health Campaign and Greenbelt Middle School's community resource fair.

## Crisis Hotline's Number is 988

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline dialing code is 988. Calls and text messages are confidential and free.



# City Information & Events

*The strength of Greenbelt is diverse people living together in a spirit of cooperation. We celebrate all people. By sharing together all are enriched. We strive to be a respectful, welcoming community that is open, accessible, safe and fair.*

## MEETINGS FOR MAY 20 - 24

Monday, May 20 at 7:30 pm, **WORK SESSION - WSSC**

Tuesday, May 21 at 7 pm, **ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON TREES**, On the Agenda: Discuss Results of Greenbelt's Arbor Day Event on April 13

Tuesday, May 21 at 7 pm, **REPARATIONS COMMISSION**, On the Agenda: Adopt Minutes & Agenda, Strategic Planning Working Group Recommendations, Facilitators Engagement

Wednesday, May 22 at 7:30 pm, **ACE STUDENT AWARDS**

Wednesday, May 22, **SPECIAL MEETING/CLOSED SESSION (IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING ACE STUDENT AWARDS)**

Thursday, May 23 at 5:30 pm, **BOARD OF ELECTIONS**

*In advance, the hearing impaired are advised to use MD RELAY at 711 to submit your questions/comments or contact the City Clerk at (301) 474-8000 or email [banderson@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:banderson@greenbeltdmd.gov). This schedule is subject to change. For confirmation that a meeting is being held call (301) 474-8000. For information on public participation for the meetings above, visit the meetings calendar at [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/calendar).*

## OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with Section 3-305(b)(1)(7) of the General Provisions Article of the Annotated Code of the Public General Laws of Maryland, a closed session of the Greenbelt City Council will be held on Wednesday, May 22, 2024, immediately following the Advisory Committee on Education (ACE) Student Awards, in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building: 1) to discuss the appointment, performance evaluation of appointees, employees, or officials over whom this public body has jurisdiction; any other personnel matter that affects one or more specific individuals; 2) to consult with counsel to obtain legal advice on a legal matter.

The purpose of this meeting is 1) to address personnel matters over which this public body has jurisdiction; and 2) to consult with legal counsel regarding pending legal matters.

\* *The public may attend the Special Meeting of the City Council immediately prior to the closed session and observe the vote of the Council to move into the closed session on Wednesday, May 22, 2024.*

Bonita Anderson, City Clerk

## REPTILES & AMPHIBIANS 101

**SATURDAY, MAY 18, 1 PM**  
Buddy Attick Park, 555 Crescent Road

Have you ever wanted to learn more about the endearing ectotherms who call Greenbelt home? Join Environmental Coordinator, Kevin Carpenter-Driscoll, and the Greenbelt Park Rangers to uncover the mysteries and misconceptions of these happening herps!

Register at <https://ow.ly/zu0y50RyU5J>.



## BUSH HONEYSUCKLE ROUND UP

**SATURDAY, MAY 25, 10 AM - 1 PM**  
Greenbelt Forest Preserve

Be a part of the community effort to remove invasive bush honeysuckle from the Greenbelt Forest Preserve. Volunteers will work with City Staff and members of the Greenbelt Forest Preserve Advisory Board to remove bush honeysuckle from the Forest Preserve understory.

Register at <https://ow.ly/ZR8050RG766>.



## SHREDDING DAY

**Saturday, May 18, 9 am - 12 pm**  
Parking Lot Behind Greenbelt Federal Credit Union, 112 Centerway

The Greenbelt Federal Credit Union will be shredding your documents in the parking lot behind the Credit Union!

Only 5 file boxes/bags per person. Follow directions. Personal records only (no business). Abandoned items will be put in the trash.

**NO BATTERIES. No plastic binders and sheets.**

*No contaminants accepted.*

For more information, call the Public Works Office at (301) 474-8004

## EMERGENCY DIAPER DISTRIBUTION

**Open Registration**

Please remember that you must register each month.

Parents must present proof of Greenbelt residency displaying parent's name and residential address, state-issued photo ID, each child's birth certificate.

To register: <https://forms.gle/3YdCeg8mC5LRfJst6> or call Brendy Garcia at (240) 424-0302.



## STAY INFORMED WITH THE GREENBELT CITY CALENDAR

Be sure to check out the City calendar for all up to date events at [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/calendar](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/calendar).



## COMMITTEES & BOARDS VACANCIES VOLUNTEER TODAY!

Volunteering for City of Greenbelt Committees & Boards is an excellent opportunity to engage with your community and make a difference. Choose from a number of committees & boards such as the **Senior Citizens Advisory Committee, the Youth Advisory Committee, or the Advisory Committee on Education**, Arts Advisory Board, Board of Elections, Community Relations Advisory Board, Employee Relations Advisory Board, Forest Preserve Advisory Board, Greenbelt Advisory Committee on Environmental Sustainability, or the Park and Recreation Advisory Board and make a difference in Greenbelt!

By dedicating your time and expertise, you will help shape the future of Greenbelt and create a community that values the voices of all its residents. Take the first step towards making a positive impact and apply for one of these committee vacancies today!

Call (301) 474-8000.

## GREENBELT DANCE STUDIO CHOREOGRAPHY CLUB PERFORMANCE

**Friday May 17, 5:30 pm, FREE.** Community Center, Room 10

Reserve a seat: <https://bit.ly/3QtaCYp>

## GREENBELT ARTS MIXER

**Sunday, May 19, 1 - 3 pm, FREE.** New Deal Cafe, 113 Centerway

Arts organizations, artists, and art enthusiasts are invited to connect, socialize and discuss arts programs in Greenbelt. Hosted by the Greenbelt Arts Advisory Board (AAB) and Friends of the New Deal Café Arts (FONDCA).

Info & Sign-up: <https://bit.ly/4bgQDUX>

## WELCOME KIT STUFFING PARTY

Thank you for all your donations for the 2024 Welcome Kit! We will be hosting a stuffing party at the Municipal Building located 25 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD 20770 on

**THURSDAY, MAY 30, 2-4 PM.**

Contact [candrews@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:candrews@greenbeltdmd.gov) for more information & to attend!

## WALKING FOR WELLNESS 2024

**Saturday, May 18, 9 am**

**Buddy Attick Park Lake**

May is observed as Mental Health Awareness Month. Help the Greenbelt Police Department raise awareness and provide support for those in our community. Join us for a delightful spring walk around Buddy Attick Park Lake. Enjoy the fresh air and other smiling faces.

Vendors for this event should arrive by 8 am.

The Wellness Walk will begin at 9 am, but walkers and runners are encouraged to start arriving by 8:30 am.

Sponsored by the Greenbelt Police Department. 550 Crescent Road, Greenbelt, MD. (301) 474-7200.

## CURRENT CARES PROGRAMS

CARES is happy to provide the following programs FREE of charge:

- Dementia Friendly America Webinars, May - June.
- Emergency Diaper Distribution. Must register <https://forms.gle/3YdCeg8mC5LRfJst6>.
- Produce Distribution at the Greenbelt Community Center, Ground Floor East, 15 Crescent Road  
*Upcoming Dates: May 16, from 1 - 3 pm*
- Produce Distribution at the Springhill Lake Recreation Center, 6101 Cherrywood Ln (Greenbelt West Residents Only)  
*Upcoming Dates: May 16, from 3 - 4:15 pm*

For descriptions and information, visit [www.greenbeltdmd.gov/CARESprograms](http://www.greenbeltdmd.gov/CARESprograms) and see ads on this page!

## ABANDONED KITTENS?

*What Should You Do?*

It's kitten season, and we'd like you to know what you should do if you find a litter in Greenbelt that appears unattended by the mother cat. 1. Leave kittens alone. Even if mama kitty is not present when you find them, she may be close by, and she's not likely to come back while humans are hovering around. 2. Don't touch or move them. If you move kittens when their mom is away feeding herself, she may not be able to find them. Remember, a kitten's best chance for survival is with its mother. 3. Check back in a few hours. A snuggled up, sleeping litter has likely been fed recently. If you've checked on them a couple of times over a 12-hour period and they appear sick, cold or emaciated, call Greenbelt Animal Services at (301) 474-6124, M-F, 8-4. Otherwise, call PG County Animal Services at (301) 780-7200.

*Image by: freepik*



A Review

# Shakespeare, Pantomime, BardCore And More from the Rude Mechanicals

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

For one more weekend you can see The Rudes Abide: A One-Act Festival at the Greenbelt Arts Center. On Sunday, despite the competition of a festival outside and Mother's Day activities for many, the central seating section of the small theater was filled with Shakespeare lovers and fans of the Rude Mechanicals. The collection of acts spans over two hours, broken by an intermission, and driven by comedic acting and entertaining musical accompaniments.

The Insect, by Claudia Bach, directed by Joshua Engel, opens the show and is the only act set in the contemporary period and language. An unlikely pair of women, Cleo (Sam David) and Hattie (Jacqueline Youm), share the stage and apparently a home with a growing number of emptied tea cups. Hattie attempts to consume an encyclopedia between her cups of tea while Cleo complains about the condition of their living quarters between fetching the tea and recounting amazing (and unlikely) tales of her past foreign adventures. An encounter with a bug that may or may not have bitten and may or may not be poisonous quickly escalates to certainty of death. The tedium, internal melodrama, inability to take action and, ultimately, the repetition make it seem a modernist lament for two ladies who have begun to measure out their life in teacups.

The second act, A Twist of Rotten Silk, or Coriolanus and Aufidius at Antium, by William Shakespeare and Nahum Tate, directed by Jaki Demarest is one that will appeal most to Shakespeare lovers and those familiar with the story that is cleverly reworked. Using lines of original speech, reordered, bitter rivalry and murderous intent between Coriolanus (Alan Duda) and Aufidius (Joshua Engel) instead become reminiscences between an amorous couple completing domestic chores.

The third act is Friar Lawrence's Apothecary, by William Shakespeare, adapted and directed by Liana Olear. In it a Friar (Stephen Cox) finds an evil queen can be thwarted by being given a faux death potion in place of the real thing, a heroine can be forgiven rumors of infidelity and



Stephen Cox as Friar Laurence, Leanne Stump as Hero



From left, Pantomime - Diana Dzikiewicz and Wes Dennis, Poetry - Sam David; in the background, musicians Penny Martin (in yellow hat) and Constantia Rioux (in red hat)

- Photos by Jay Henry

save her reputation by achieving the temporary appearance of death by using the same and Juliet can escape a wedding by the same means. Thus, the Friar solves the different dilemmas of three women (all played by Leanne Stump) through the same clever potion.

The final act is the Shakespoems, directed and conducted by Sean Eustis. In it, Shakespeare's witty narrative poems are brought to life with humorous pantomime that helps to draw the meaning

from the Shakespearean language for the contemporary audience. The musical performances that are interspersed are some of the highlights of the performance from the BardCore musicians that juxtapose Shakespeare's poetry with modern day hits such as Somebody That I Used to Know, Never Going to Give You Up and It's In His Kiss. The final performances are Friday, May 17 and Saturday, May 18. Visit greenbelartscenter.org for tickets and more information.



Recreation staff visit the "World-Famous Greenbelt Utility Pole". Look for a story about the World-Famous Greenbelt Utility Pole in a coming issue.

Election

## Alsobrooks Beats Trone to Become Democratic Candidate for Senate

by Anna Bedford-Dillow



PHOTO BY ANNA BEDFORD-DILLOW

Signs for David Trone lined the sidewalks and dwarfed others in size and volume on Tuesday.

Though the signs for David Trone lined Greenbelt's sidewalks and dwarfed all others in size and volume on Tuesday, Angela Alsobrooks celebrated her projected win of the Democratic Nomination for Maryland's Senate seat around 11 p.m. at Martin's Crosswinds in Greenbelt. By Wednesday morning, with over 66 percent of votes counted, Alsobrooks had garnered 54 percent of the vote (to Trone's 41.9 percent). Her win came despite being outspent 10 to 1 by Trone. For more on the contentious primary race for the senate seat vacated by retiring Senator Ben Cardin, see our May 9 issue.

Wednesday morning Larry Hogan was projected to win the Republican nomination to face off against Alsobrooks for the Senate seat with 81.9 percent of the Republican vote. Maryland's seat will likely be a deciding factor in control of the Senate.

On the rainy Tuesday primary election day, besides those electioneering for Alsobrooks and Trone, there were also representatives of a group called Listen to Maryland, asking voters to select "Uncommitted" on their ballots. They hope the uncommitted vote will send a message to President Joe Biden that in order to garner broad Democratic support he needs to change course and withdraw support for the war in Gaza. On Wednesday morning, over 10



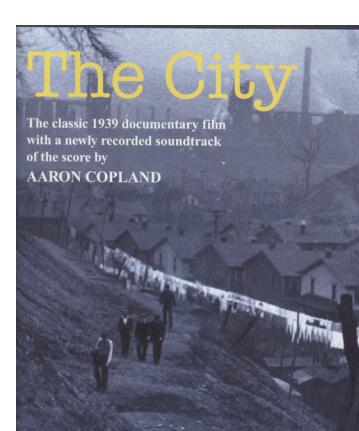
PHOTO COURTESY ANGELA ALSOBROOKS

Angela Alsobrooks is projected to win Tuesday's primary, despite David Trone's much higher spending on the campaign.

percent of votes counted on the Democratic primary ballots were "Uncommitted" for president, to Biden's 86.3 percent.

Donald Trump had 80 percent of the vote for president on the Republican ballot by Wednesday morning. George McDermott is the uncontested Republican candidate for the 4th Congressional District. Glenn Ivey has won the Democratic nomination for the district with 84 percent of the vote (Gabriel Njimbot garnering 5.8 percent, Emmett Johnson 5.2 percent and Joseph Gomes 5 percent).

*This article was written using the election results available by 7:30 a.m. Wednesday morning, at which time over 66 percent of votes had been counted in the Democratic primary and 82.8 percent of votes in the Republican primary.*



Tuesday, May 21, 7:30pm,  
at Greenbelt Cinema:  
hear Greenbelt Community  
Orchestra demonstrate some  
of Aaron Copland's themes  
from the film, then watch The  
City. Tickets:  
[www.greenbeltcinema.org](http://www.greenbeltcinema.org)



## Greenbriar's Spring Yard Sale at

Greenbriar Condominiums  
7600 Hanover Parkway,  
Greenbelt, MD 20770  
May 18, 2024  
8:00 AM – 12:00 PM



Rain or Shine, Come Shop Till You Drop

# School News

## Hearing Set to Determine Historic Status of Greenbelt School Building

by Anna Bedford-Dillow

Greenbelt City Council hopes to see the Dora Kennedy French Immersion (DKFI) school building, which originally opened in 1938 as Greenbelt High, declared historic, says City Manager Josué Salmerón. That hope was buoyed on Tuesday with the publication of the staff recommendation to the county Historic Preservation Commission, which concluded the school met four of nine possible criteria of historical and cultural significance and recommends that Greenbelt High School and its approximately 12.6-acre environmental setting be designated a Prince George's County Historic Site. A Historic Site Designation Hearing is scheduled to take place online on Tuesday, May 21 at 6:30 p.m.

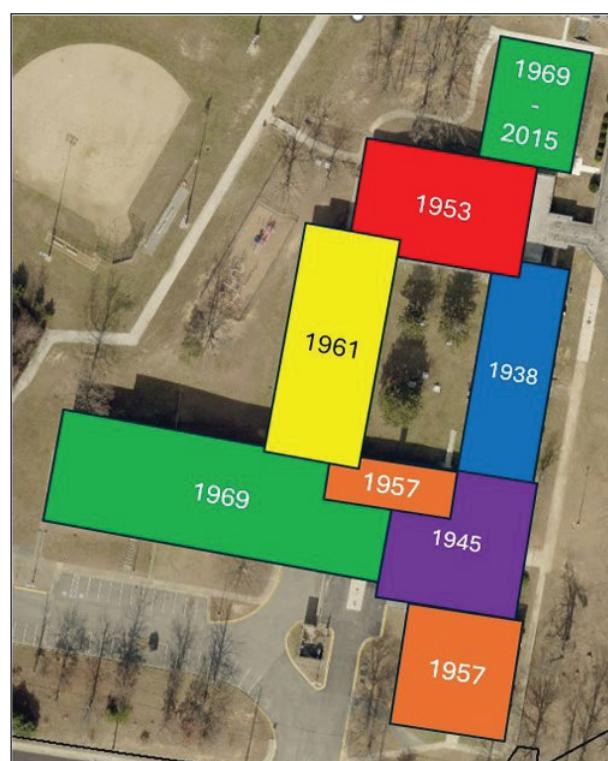
The staff report found that the site "has significant character, interest or value as part of the development, heritage or cultural characteristics of the County, State or Nation," "exemplifies the cultural, economic, industrial, social, political or historical heritage of the County and its urban and rural communities," "embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period or method of construction," and "represents an established and familiar visual feature of the neighborhood, community, or County due to its singular physical characteristics or landscape." Staff concluded that despite alterations to the school, it has "sufficient integrity to convey, represent, or contain the values and qualities for which it is judged significant."

Mayor Emmett Jordan wrote to Prince George's County Historic Preservation Commission on behalf of Greenbelt City Council on April 11, requesting the site be assessed and classified as a historic site. The council's request came in direct response to the Prince George's County Public Schools (PGCPS) administrators' statement that they planned to demolish it, Salmerón told the News Review. In the letter to the Commission Jordan notes that the site is "in danger of being lost" based on recent communications with PGCPS, which owns the building and the land. The plan was revealed at the January 10 worksession between PGCPS and council at which PGCPS shared their intention to move DKFI from the building in 2026, to house Springhill Lake Elementary there from 2026 to 2028 and then demolish it. "Council was alarmed," said Salmerón. Councilmember Rodney Roberts was particularly vocal in his opposition to the plan. "You can't tear down our old high school!" he objected at that meeting.

Since hearing council's objections, PGCPS administrators have used the language of "decommissioning" and have refrained from publicly stating that they'll demolish the building, which originally opened in 1938 as Greenbelt High. It later had several additions (the Historic Preservation Commission lists construction dates as 1937, 1945, 1953, 1957, 1961 and 1969) and became home to Greenbelt Junior High,



A photo of the 1938 building printed in the 1940 Greenbelt High School yearbook



This image shows the dates of construction for various parts of the building that now houses the Dora Kennedy French Immersion school.

then Greenbelt Middle School, and, for the last decade, DKFI. It was designated a County Historic Resource in 2013, the year between its occupation by Greenbelt Middle School and DKFI, when its future was then uncertain.

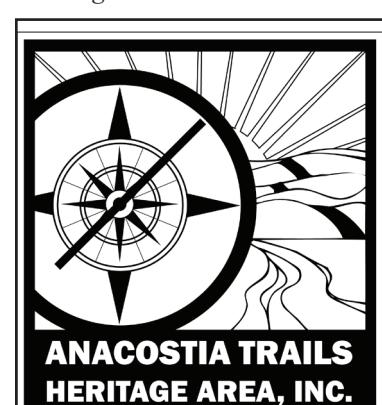
The staff report published on Tuesday stated that the "Art Moderne and International-style design emphasizes functionalism, siting, materials and economic constraints, all of which are characteristic of the architecture within the Greenbelt National Historic Landmark." It notes Greenbelt's significance as one of three federally built planned communities during the Great Depression, significance as a model for community planning and design and for its architecture. It "exemplifies several heritage themes identified in the 2010 Prince George's County Approved Historic Sites and Districts Plan, including political history, education, suburban growth, and is a rare example of Art Moderne/International-style architecture within the Inventory of Historic Resources. It is also significant as an extant part of the Greenbelt National Historic Landmark," it continues.

Greenbelt City Council wanted to explore options to protect the facility, Salmerón told the

News Review, but their discussions haven't yet evolved to what they'd like to see become of the building in the long run.

Tuesday's hearing will be held virtually. Access information can be found on the Historic Preservation Commission website at [pgplanning.org/countywide-planning/historic-preservation](http://pgplanning.org/countywide-planning/historic-preservation). Anyone wishing to speak must fill out a sign-in form in advance, registering by 5 p.m. on the day of the meeting.

*This reporter has two children who attend DKFI in the featured building.*



Explore the History, Culture, Arts and Nature of Prince George's County!

Curated routes and trail maps: [anacostiatrails.org](http://anacostiatrails.org)

## Two ERHS Students to Compete In National History Day Finals

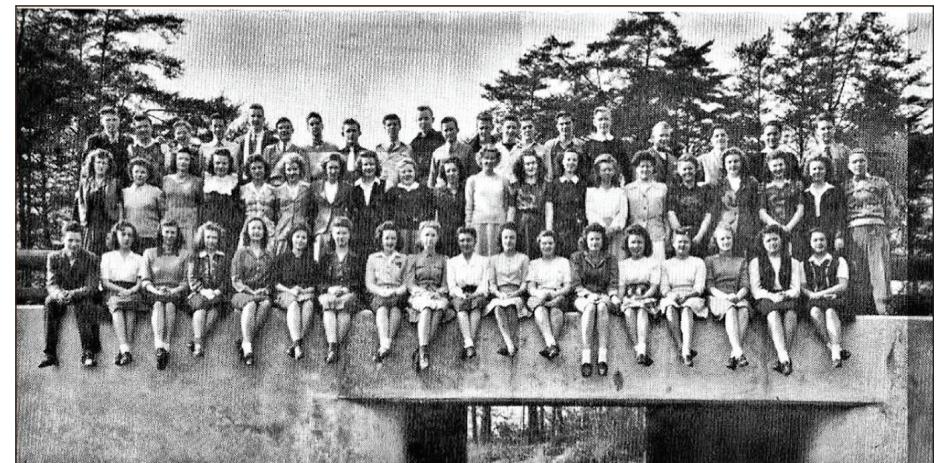
On Saturday, May 4, over 500 middle and high school students showcased their original documentary film, exhibit, performance, research paper or website – representing a year's worth of historical research – in the Maryland History Day State Contest, held at University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Two students who attend Eleanor Roosevelt High School (ERHS) won second place in their categories and will advance to the national level. Joshua Herrera-Guzman placed second in the Senior Individual Exhibit, on the topic of The Birthing of the First Socialist State. Aashi Moola placed in the Senior Paper category, on the topic of Mosquitos, Medicine and Major Milestones: William Gorgas' Legacy on the Panama Canal. Both students' sponsoring teacher is Victoria Patch Williams.

Maryland History Day, produced by Maryland Humanities since 1999, sparks critical thinking and helps develop skills in research and analysis, writing and public speaking. Working solo or in small groups, students create a project exploring a historical topic of their choice on an annual theme. This year's theme is Turning Points in History. Maryland History Day is open to public, private, parochial and homeschool students in grades 6 through 12.

Students from nine Maryland counties and Baltimore City, including Herrera-Guzman and Moola from ERHS, will represent Maryland in the National History Day competition. They will compete among an estimated 3,000 participants from all 50 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa and international schools in China, Korea and South Asia. National History Day runs from June 9 to 13 at the University of Maryland, College Park.

*Information for this article was drawn from a press release from Maryland Humanities.*



The Senior Dramatics Club on the Edmonston Road underpass, from the 1945 Greenbelt High School yearbook

- Photos courtesy Historic Preservation Commission



Invites you to our

**Annual Legislative Update**

*from our Annapolis Delegates*

**Friday May 24, 2024**  
**7:00 to 9:00 pm**  
**Greenbriar Terrace Room**  
**7600 Hanover Parkway**

[www.rooseveltclub.com](http://www.rooseveltclub.com)



## Greenbelt Small Business Benefits From ARPA Grant: LOL Stations

by Laura Charleston



PHOTO BY LAURA CHARLESTON

### An expanded selection of new bumper cars at LOL Stations

Laugh Out Loud (LOL) Stations MEGA Fun Center in Beltsway Plaza is home to numerous attractions for all ages. This year, they celebrate their 10th anniversary, buoyed by the award of \$50,000 in an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant in December 2023. This grant has transformed LOL Stations, enabling them to not only stay in business but enhance their services.

The ARPA grants, distributed through the City of Greenbelt, have provided funding to programs, individuals, nonprofit organizations and small businesses recovering from the pandemic's impact. Currently, applications remain open for nonprofits, workforce development, first-time homebuyers and more (visit [engagegreenbelt.org/grants](http://engagegreenbelt.org/grants)).

LOL Stations was given only a day's notice to close the center due to the pandemic. They had hoped to reopen after two weeks. What was supposed to be a short hiatus turned into a long and uncertain period of 18 months, testing the resilience of the business and its commitment to the community.

"That grant has really revolutionized us, being here 10 years, and when you're in business, you really don't always have the capital to be able to do the things that you want to do and we suffered through Covid," said Regina Bethea, co-founder and chief executive officer of LOL Stations.

#### ARPA Funds

With the money received through ARPA, LOL Stations has renovated the space, upgraded equipment and added new attractions. The laser tag arena has updated vests, sounds and lighting for a more immersive experience. The bumper cars now operate seven to eight cars simultaneously, compared to the original three to four. They also updated the fences to offer better security and organization. Their newest additions are two virtual reality games: Ghostbuster V.R. Academy, where one learns how to capture ghosts to save the city, and Zombyte, where one defends oneself from various zombies that can manipulate technology. Both are interactive and immersive, making players feel like they are in the game.

"You leave the world behind, and you enjoy yourself at LOL Stations. So that's really the goal, to have the right attractions to be able to create that kind of feeling, that kind of experience," said Bethea.

#### Other Programs

Bethea found two other programs to help her business through the pandemic.

The Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) grant first helped them get started again after closing for 18 months due to Covid. The PPP was established by the CARES Act and aided small businesses with funds to pay up to eight weeks of payroll costs, including benefits and economic relief, according to the U.S. Department of Treasury.

The Pepco Building Tune-up program helped the business afford to renovate the building's lighting, also lowering their electricity bill. That program, which aims to ensure "equipment is operating at peak performance, helping you conserve energy, save money and extend the life of existing equipment," is offered through Pepco, which states that financial incentives can cover up to 85 percent of the cost of several building tune-up services (visit [homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/business/building-tuneup](http://homeenergysavings.pepco.com/md/business/building-tuneup) for more).

#### Happier Customers

Bethea said her business reviews have greatly improved since the renovations. "We're really excited about that. That has made a tremendous change in our business," said Bethea. LOL Stations has a 3.5 rating on Google and several recent four- and five-star reviews from visitors. "This place was a blast for my kiddos!" said Catrina Soto in her 4-star Google Review.

"Our son had the best time here! From bounce houses, to two play areas, to multiple rides and the Stomp It room, there's sooo much to keep a little one entertained! We can't wait to come back!" said Melissa Finger in her 5-star Google Review.

#### Next, A Daycare Center

LOL Stations always aimed to include a childcare center, too, says Bethea, something she describes as not just a business decision but a commitment to the community. A daycare center,

See LOL STATIONS, page 15

## Girl Scouts Recognized



PHOTO BY NIKKI JOHNSON

At the recent World Thinking Day (see the May 9 issue), nine scouts from Troop 23007 were recognized for earning the Girl Scout Silver Award, the second highest national award in Girl Scouts. For more on the projects the girls completed to earn the awards, see the December 21, 2023, issue of the News Review.

Pictured from left: Brooklyn Scott, Emily Gendreau, Lien Gareri, Sadie Young, Lilah Ali and troop leader Holly Wheeler. Not pictured are Emerson Gary, Claire Aolga, Anna Grim and Faith Holden.

## Choreography Dance Club Performs Friday

The Greenbelt Dance Studio, a program of Greenbelt Recreation, invites guests of all ages to a free performance by participants in the 2024 Choreography Club under the leadership of Angella Foster.

The performances are choreographed, costumed and performed by dancers ages 10 and up.

The performance will take place Friday, May 17 at 5:30 p.m. in the Greenbelt Dance Studio, located in the Community Center, Room 10. No tickets are required but space is limited so register here to attend: [bit.ly/3QtACYp](http://bit.ly/3QtACYp).

City of Greenbelt arts programs are supported in part by a grant from the Maryland State Arts Council. For additional program information, visit [greenbeltdmd.gov/arts](http://greenbeltdmd.gov/arts).

## Writers Group Meets on Friday

The monthly meeting of the Greenbelt Writers Group will be held at 7 p.m. on Friday, May 17 in the Community Center. All interested writers are invited. Open readings will be held and the group will continue a discussion of a potential joint writing project. The April meeting was cancelled due to the emergency closure of the Community Center; so, if a poem was prepared for Poetry Month, bring it for this month. For more information, email Barbara Ford at [barb.ford@comcast.net](mailto:barb.ford@comcast.net).

## Free Movie Night Thursday at GATE

On Thursday, May 16 at 6:30 p.m., Greenbelt Access Television (GATE) will be hosting a special screening of Johnny Mnemonic (1995), a true gem of 90s sci-fi absurdity. Snacks and refreshments will be provided. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/GATE-JohnnyMnemonic](http://tinyurl.com/GATE-JohnnyMnemonic).



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## Obituaries continued

space. He also loved his Greenbelt roots and focused the last 25 years on serving residents of Greenbelt through his business, JC Landscaping. He knew most of his customers since childhood. He was also known as a musician, having played drums for several years with his buddies in the band Silencer. He loved sports (Washington Redskins, Capitals, Jeff Gordon) almost as much as he loved space science.

Jonny is survived by his wife, Diane (Powers) Cohen, daughters Victoria (Tori) and Justine Cohen, mother Rhea (Singer) Cohen and siblings Jesse Cohen and Yael Konowe. He is also survived by

nieces Rachel Peterson, Celia Konowe, Sara and Samantha Powers and Cheyenne Cohen and by nephews Cory Peterson, Cody Cohen and Sean Powers. He was preceded in death by his father, Leonard Cohen.

A celebration of life will be held at 4 p.m. on Friday, May 17 at Beall Funeral Home, 6512 NW Crain Highway, Bowie, MD 20715. To honor Jonny, donations to help defray costs can be made via Venmo (<https://venmo.com/u/Diane-Cohen-50>). He would have also enjoyed the thought of tree(s) being planted to benefit present and future generations ([alivingtribute.org](http://alivingtribute.org)).

### PORCH Food Pickup

Greenbelt PORCH collects donations of nonperishables and hygiene products and brings them to the St. Hugh's Food Pantry. Donations must be placed by front doors in containers marked RUAK or PORCH visible from the street. The pantry cannot accept open containers or food that has expired.

#### Upcoming pickup dates:

Saturday, May 18, by 10 a.m. for 14 and 15 Courts Laurel Hill Road.

Sunday, May 19, by 4 p.m. for Boxwood Village and for P.A.L. (PORCH at large) members (including former Woodland Hill donors). Contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com) by noon on May 19 and he will come to your porch.

Monday, May 20 by 10:30 a.m. for Pinnacle Property Apartments.

Sunday, May 26, after 4 p.m. for 9 and 12 Courts Ridge Road and 11 and 13 Courts Ridge Road and by 5 p.m. for Lakeside Drive.

Volunteers who would like to expand Greenbelt PORCH to additional neighborhoods in Greenbelt are always welcome; especially needed are coordinators in Greenbelt East. Anyone with questions or who is interested in being a volunteer or starting a new neighborhood for monthly food collection with Greenbelt PORCH, email Goldberg-Strassler at [spreadruak@gmail.com](mailto:spreadruak@gmail.com).

### Français, s'il vous plaît: French at the Café

A group of people interested in speaking French meets at the New Deal Café every Thursday from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. All ages, all levels of fluency are welcome.

### Greenbelt Farmers Market



**Sundays 10a - 2p**

Southway and Centerway

[GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org](http://GreenbeltFarmersMarket.org)

### Senior Nutrition Program Luncheon

The Senior Nutrition Food and Friendship program provides lunch for seniors Monday through Friday at the Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. Note the updated start time. Meals must be reserved two weeks ahead so that enough food is ordered. Participants must complete a registration form in person at the Community Center office, on Monday through Friday between 9 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. There is a suggested donation. Call 301-397-2208, ext. 4215 with questions.

Two menu options, one vegetarian, will be offered for each luncheon. All meals, which provide at least one third of recommended dietary allowances for older adults, include margarine, coffee or tea and skim milk.

### Shred-It Event

Saturday, May 18, from 8 to 11 a.m. bring unwanted paper documents to be shredded for free at the 2024 Greenbelt Shred-It Event. The event will take place at 112 Centerway.

## GreenCAPS Mosquito Tip: Eliminate Standing Water

Mosquitoes start breeding once nighttime temperatures consistently reach 50°F – so mosquito breeding season is here. Like last year, GreenCAPS – Greenbelt Citizens Avoiding Pesticides – is committed to fighting mosquitoes in environmentally sustainable ways.

Start by inspecting the garden for all kinds of standing water, from bamboo pole openings and birdbaths to water catch basins and wheelbarrows. And talk to neighbors, too: Just one bottle cap of stagnant water is enough to breed 300 mosquitoes in about 10 days. Remove standing water wherever possible. In areas where it's not possible, use Mosquito Bits or Mosquito Dunks, with a naturally occurring bacterium, to kill mosquito larvae. This is a cheap and sustainable way to reduce mosquito populations. Both products are available in home improvement stores and online. They are environmentally safe (EPA-approved for organic gardening), efficient and locally made.

The University of Maryland Extension, many neighboring counties and the health authorities of a number of U.S. states advise against using black corrugated plastic pipe for drainage projects around the house as the tiny amounts of standing water in them provide a breeding haven for mosquitoes. Use white, non-corrrugated (and sturdier) PVC instead, and bury the ends of the drainage pipes properly in the ground. If there is black corrugated pipe on your property, place mosquito netting or a ho-



PHOTO BY GREENCAPS

Mosquito breeding site

siery stocking over the end of the pipe. Check the pipe carefully for even the tiniest holes, and cover them, too. Check regularly for debris buildup, and whether the covering needs to be replaced.

Mosquitoes are not just a summer nuisance, they are also potential carriers of diseases. Spread the word that there are many ways to fight mosquitoes successfully – ways that won't harm people and their pets, pollinators or the environment. Pesticides should only be the last path of action. To learn more, to support our work and/or to volunteer, email GreenCAPS – Greenbelt Citizens Avoiding Pesticides – at

[GreenbeltGreenCAPS@yahoo.com](mailto:GreenbeltGreenCAPS@yahoo.com).

*GreenCaps is a group of residents committed to fighting mosquitoes in environmentally sustainable ways.*

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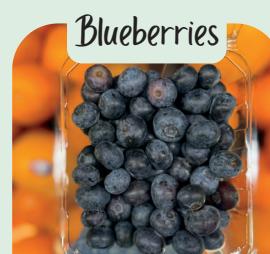
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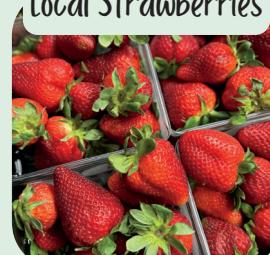
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# Police Blotter

Incidents reported here occurred May 6 - 13, 2024. Readers are encouraged to contact the police if they have information that may aid in an enquiry. Call the non-emergency number 301-474-7200 or email [pd@greenbeltdmd.gov](mailto:pd@greenbeltdmd.gov). This week's blotter has fewer details because the communication officer is away.

Greenbelt Police had eight domestic calls, three associated with arrests; one with a warrant and one with fire and emergency services assistance; four mental health diversions, one with a suicide attempt; and one welfare check involving vandalism. A missing person case was filed May 9 near 6200 Breezewood Court. Protective order papers were served May 6 near 7500 Greenbelt Road.

Assaults occurred May 7 near 8100 Lakecrest Drive; May 9 near 9200 Springhill Lane; May 10 near 9300 Edmonston Road; and May 11 near 6000 Greenbelt Road.

Robberies occurred May 6 near 7600 Greenbelt Road, and May 9 near 6200 Greenbelt Road.

A warrant for a shooting was served May 7 near 5300 Cherrywood Terrace.

A break-in occurred May 8 near 6400 Cherrywood Lane.

Disorderly conduct occurred May 7 near 6000 Greenbelt Road, and May 12 near 6000 Springhill Drive.

A fraud arrest was made May 7 near 7200 Hanover Drive. Fraud was reported May 8 near 6100 Greenbelt Road.

Thefts occurred May 6 near 9000 Breezewood Terrace; May 7 near 7500 Greenbelt Road; May 8 near 7400 Greenbelt Road, and near 6000 Greenbelt Road (twice); May 9 near 100 Center-

## Man Shot May 14 On Hillside Road

Around 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14, a man was shot on Hillside Road. The sound of approximately half a dozen gunshots alarmed residents in the area of Hillside and Crescent Road. Officers responded to the multiple calls they received reporting the gunshots and once on-scene, they located shell casings in the area of 1 Hillside.

Speaking with the News Review on Wednesday morning, Deputy Chief Tim White said police located a male victim of the shooting, suffering from a gunshot wound to the upper body at an area hospital. He has since been released from the hospital.

Anyone who may have witnessed the events of Tuesday evening or who has video or surveillance footage from the area is asked to contact Greenbelt Police Department at 301-474-7200.



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## GREENBELT NEWS REVIEW

### At the Library

Regular hours for the Greenbelt Library are 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays; noon to 8 p.m., Tuesdays and Wednesdays; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturdays; and 1 to 5 p.m., Sundays. Face masks are recommended for all customers over the age of 2.

#### Storytimes

Friday, May 17, 11:15 a.m., ages 2 to 3. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10356778](http://pgcmls.info/event/10356778).

Monday, May 20, 10:15 a.m., ages newborn to 2. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10356751](http://pgcmls.info/event/10356751).

Wednesday, May 22, 12:15 p.m., ages 3 to 5. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10356786](http://pgcmls.info/event/10356786).

#### Storytime on Screen

Monday, May 20, 10:30 a.m., ages 1 to 5, at the Greenbelt Cinema.

Greenbelt Cinema, in partnership with PGCMLS, is offering a free program of stories, songs and a short film. This program is best suited for children ages 1 to 5 and their caregivers. No unaccompanied children or adults. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10356829](http://pgcmls.info/event/10356829).

#### STEM for Families

Tuesday, May 21, 4:30 p.m., ages 5 to 12. Explore science, technology, engineering and math. Drop in and make a Japanese-style Kakudako kite. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10369450](http://pgcmls.info/event/10369450).

#### Teen Action Group

Wednesday, May 22, 4:30 p.m., ages 13 to 18. Need to earn community service hours? Come make a difference in the community, gain friends from around the area and speak up at the public library. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10356454](http://pgcmls.info/event/10356454).

#### Ride and Read

Thursday, May 16, 11 a.m., ages 16+ (adult). Get some physical activity while at the library. Sign up for an hour ride on one of the stationary bikes with great free apps from PGCMLS, like Libby, Kanopy and Freegal, to enjoy while working out. Participants must be 16 or older, sign a waiver before beginning to ride and be wearing loose-fitting clothing and closed-toed shoes. Register at [pgcmls.info/event/10369469](http://pgcmls.info/event/10369469).



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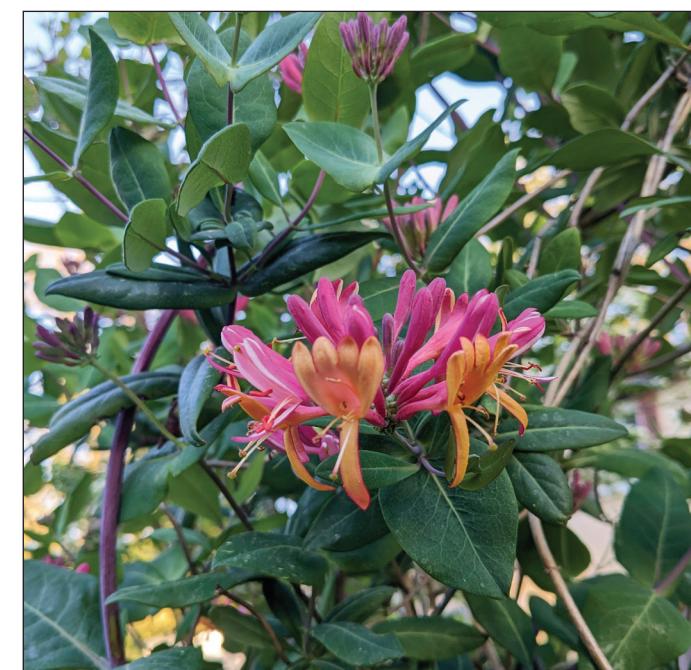
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## Public Comments Due June 2 On BEP Traffic, Utility EA

of Sheep Road will be regraded and repaved near its intersection with Powder Mill Road. Rumble strips on Powder Mill Road will be removed.

The CPFs wastewater will be directed to the WSSC sanitary sewer system, not to the BARC wastewater treatment plant as originally proposed. The EA considers two alternative routes to the WSSC system: 1) north from the site to between Odell Road and Ammendale Way, the preferred alternative, and 2) southwest from the site to west of the Edmonston Road and Powder Mill Road intersection. BEP will pre-treat all industrial wastewater to WSSC standards prior to discharge into the WSSC system.

The EA can be viewed online at [nab.usace.army.mil/BEP](http://nab.usace.army.mil/BEP) and a hard copy is available at the Greenbelt Library. Written comments from the public can be submitted until June 2, 2024, via email to [BEP-Updates@usace.army.mil](mailto:BEP-Updates@usace.army.mil) or via U.S. mail to ATTN: BEP EA, US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Baltimore District Planning Division, 2 Hopkins Plaza, 10th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201.



Honeysuckle blooms early offering nectar to returning hummingbirds and others.

PHOTO BY JOHANNA GODDER

## 2024 GREENBELT SHRED-IT EVENT

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This tree is watching, on the walkway between Hillside and East-way.



PHOTO BY JEFFREY ALLEN JONES



PHOTO BY BARBARA BJANES

Spring blooms

## THE CITY continued from page 1

music tells the story of the film," orchestra organizer Anne Gardner pointed out. At the screening, orchestra members learned how the themes they are practicing relate to the film's visual images. One musician noted that the dystopian themes of the "old" city, portrayed as dirty, crowded and "blighted," resembled Philip Glass and Michael Koenig's score to the 1982 polemical movie *Koyaanisqatsi* – Life out of Balance. The theme for Sunday Traffic illustrates being stuck in traffic jams with horns going. "What is all this crazy noise? It's also factories and heavy industry," Maseloff and Gardner noted. In opposition, The City shows a Greenbelt bus driving cheerfully down a sunny parkway, carrying men to their work. Also a polemical film, it pushes the agenda of the clean, new planned city in comparison to the old, and the viewer should take care to note that polemical films do not tell the whole story (like the fact that people of color were excluded from settling in Greenbelt).

On June 2, in celebration of Greenbelt Day weekend, the full orchestra will perform the suite, in an afternoon that includes a naturalization ceremony for new citizens and a band concert. The orchestra will play a more musically coherent version of what Copland actually wrote, as opposed to the themes as cut for the film soundtrack. Maseloff said, "This music gets chopped up and rearranged for the film, with jarring cuts as it randomly switches between scenes."

In preparing to play The City, the Greenbelt Community Orchestra partnered with the Concert Band to add in some needed instruments, including additional percussion. "Literally the bells and whistles," Gardner quipped. Together, the two groups purchased a xylophone.

The orchestra had to pay for the rights to perform the piece and rent the sheet music, which is handwritten probably because people so rarely perform it that they haven't typeset it. "The orchestra has figured out the idiom of Copland," Maseloff said. "He developed an American style: a little bit folksy, catchy little tunes, mixed meter, complex rhythms. In my short time as the conductor, this is the most exciting project we've done. We are the inheritors of this music,

because this music was composed for the town and we are musical representatives of the town." About half of the orchestra are Greenbelt residents.

The orchestra looks forward to performing a more diverse repertoire, including music by women and people of color, instead of relying mostly on the more commonly performed canonical works where musicians can print their own parts from the public domain. To play more diverse music, the orchestra has achieved nonprofit status and has applied for a city grant to give a concert consisting entirely of music by Black composers during Black History Month 2025. To support Greenbelt Community Orchestra, make donations through the website at [greenbeltorchestra.org](http://greenbeltorchestra.org).



PHOTO BY JON GARDNER

Greenbelt Community Orchestra performs in the Community Center on March 17. Their next concert will be on June 2, when they will perform Aaron Copland's suite from *The City*. A small group from the orchestra will also demonstrate Copland's main themes from *The City* at the event with the Cinema on May 21.



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## CINEMA continued from page 1

a boost now to support building back to a more sustainable level that would enable smaller requests in future years.

After about 30 minutes of history, background and iteration of the many positive impacts that the Cinema has had for the city, new Councilmember Amy Knesel asked the \$100,000 question: What can the Cinema not do if your budget from the city is not increased as requested?

### Impact on Staffing

McGrath said their biggest expense was salaries and that without the boost, reduced staffing would impact what the theater would be able to do. She contrasted staffing now with that of Paul Sanchez, the last to operate the facility as a traditional movie theater. He operated the theater with a skeleton staff – but also just showed movies and did little else to otherwise enhance life in the city.

The Cinema now has five full-time employees and several part-timers. McGrath found it “hard to imagine” how fewer people would be able to deliver the same level of service. Jones pointed out that at the current budget level, they would certainly not be able to replace the recently departed marketing person crucial to financial stability and would expect a longer climb to a sustainable level as a result.

### Funding Sources

McGrath noted that nonprofits can, and the theater does, raise additional funds (while making the point that if the Cinema were for profit, Covid would have closed it permanently). It is still operating but at a loss and, as a result, is eroding its reserves. American Rescue Plan Act funding (now ending) has been crucial in keeping them going. She is encouraged that more people are coming back, but it is a slow process and attendance is not yet back to pre-pandemic levels. She said that in comparison with other local cultural resources, like Greenbelt Arts Center and the Greenbelt Museum, the council subsidy for the Cinema, per attending person, was considerably less.

### Covid and Audiences

Covid was a brutal experience for the theater. It was closed and even when it reopened, it was very restricted. Overall changes in media usage patterns spurred by the home-based streaming services encouraged by Covid have become the norm and continue to eat into patronage. Over 200 theaters in the U.S. have closed their doors permanently.

During the pandemic the theater creatively adapted, even though it couldn't host audiences. Coming out of the pandemic has proven an intense climb. Patrons tend to be an older, female and quite Covid-cautious demographic, meaning they are less inclined to be in public spaces – which reduces audience numbers. The Cinema is working to attract a broader clientele with a broader range of content designed to attract a wider audience – for example, young men are the primary customers for action movies – but it is a slow process.

### Back to Seven Days

The studios dictate what movies can be shown and the terms under which they are shown. Shortly after the pandemic, when the theater was opening two or three days a week, the studios

were grateful for any open movie theaters and were flexible about making movies available. But more recently, the studios again insist that theaters show movies seven days a week. As the Cinema adapted to that reality by opening seven days, their costs went up significantly, but audiences and receipts (though increasing) did not expand immediately, with the same audiences spreading over seven days instead of just two or three.

### Second Screen

McGrath described the “micro-theater” as being a strategic asset crucial to art house theaters. The Cinema’s identity as an “art house” theater gives it a wide range of offerings – historic, experimental, shorts, documentaries, for example – compared to the traditional movie theater so movies can be shown that attract specialized, smaller audiences. As the audience wanes for a blockbuster movie for the main screen, but is still coming, the movie can move to the smaller space and allow a new movie in the main auditorium.

McGrath felt that perhaps not everybody knew that the micro-theater has been fully renovated to have comfortable chairs and equivalent sound and projection facilities – a far cry from the original, very basic interim pop-up. This smaller space also extends the range of offerings for public outreach activities.

Michael Hartman, president of the New Deal Café, spoke from the floor on the positive effect the theater has for the Café and praised McGrath and her team for their commitment to serving people with disabilities. He also pointed out that all the events and activities in Roosevelt Center tend to be synergistic, so an attractive theater benefits the other Center businesses and brings in people from beyond the city limits.

## Food Rescue Group Needs Volunteers

With so much food being wasted and dumped in landfills, have you ever wanted to make a difference and divert surplus food from food sources to those nonprofit organizations that need it the most? Prince George's County Food Equity Council ([pgfec.org](http://pgfec.org)) has collaborated with Food Rescue US to try to prevent this waste and take surplus food (whether from restaurants, grocery stores or farmers markets) and deliver it to public food banks and soup kitchens in the county. One such rescue is located right here in Greenbelt, at our own local Farmers Market, scheduled each Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. until mid-November. Two volunteers with two cars will show up around 1:15 p.m. and will check in with farmers and vendors to see if they would be willing/able at the close of the market to donate surplus food to a church-run food bank in Laurel. Volunteers will bring reusable bags or cardboard boxes to collect food, then drive for 15 minutes up to Laurel to drop off collected food to church staff, who will keep that food in cold storage until ready to distribute to those in need. If interested, one of the local Food Rescue volunteers, Jeannie Bellina ([rbellina@verizon.net](mailto:rbellina@verizon.net)), is happy to answer any questions. The group's motto is Be the Rescue.

## Bike to Work Day Is Friday, May 17

Bike to Work Day is back. On Friday, May 17 at 7 a.m., a convoy led by Laurie Lemieux of Proteus Bicycles will leave the Greenbelt pitstop in front of the Aquatic & Fitness Center, heading to downtown College Park (City Hall) and continuing to Washington, D.C. A second convoy, led by Jeff Lemieux of Friends of the Greenbelt East Trail, will leave the Greenbelt pitstop at 8:30 a.m. heading to Goddard Space Flight Center via the future trail route alongside Greenbelt Road. All bike commuters are welcome to join in. Keep in mind that these are not supported rides; all riders are responsible for their own navigation and safety. For more information on the Greenbelt East Trail visit [greenbeltnasatrail.org](http://greenbeltnasatrail.org); for general information and to sign up for Bike to Work Day, go to [biketoworkmetrodc.org](http://biketoworkmetrodc.org).

## Community Orchestra Welcomes Musicians

Greenbelt Community Orchestra rehearses on Thursday evenings and welcomes new members, especially string players. For more information, visit [GreenbeltOrchestra.org](http://GreenbeltOrchestra.org).



PHOTO BY MARC MANHEIMER

In an avian public display of affection in Greenbelt, a male northern cardinal feeds his partner, practicing for when she is sitting on the nest.



PHOTO BY PETER BRADY



Public Meeting on Proposed Remedial Action Plan  
For the BARC 6 AOC (Biodegradable Landfill)

**May 29, 2024, 5:00 – 6:30 PM**

**George Washington Carver Center**

**5601 Sunnyside Ave | Beltsville, MD 20705 | Building 1 Room 1-1217**

Free Parking is available. Enter via the main entrance and follow directions to Room 1-1217 Cafeteria.

Visit <https://www.ars.usda.gov/docs/headquarters-information/> for more information.

Please bring a government issued Photo ID (Driver's License or Passport) for building access.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service (ARS) has completed an investigation and selection of a preferred remedial alternative for a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA) Area of Concern (AOC) at the Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) located in Beltsville, Prince George's County, Maryland. The investigation and development of the remedial alternative for this National Priorities List (NPL) AOC have been completed with input and approval of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

This notice announces the availability of the Proposed Remedial Action Plan (PRAP) for the BARC Biodegradable AOC, also known as BARC 6, for public review and comment. To support the public's review of the PRAP, BARC will hold a public meeting to discuss the completed investigations, risks to human health and the environment, and the preferred remedial action.

Approximately 4 acres in size, the BARC 6 AOC was an informal landfill, and was used for disposal of “biodegradable” wastes such as tree trimmings, grass clippings, and other non-construction related wastes from the 1940s until approximately 1975. A Preliminary Assessment and Site Investigation in 1991 at BARC 6 found unacceptable levels of two volatile organic compounds (VOCs) tetrachloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE) in groundwater (GW). Following the groundwater investigation, landfill waste was excavated in 1993 and replaced with a clean soil cap. No source of PCE or TCE was found in the landfilled waste. After the removal action, there were no surface or subsurface soil contaminants creating unacceptable risks to human health or ecological receptors remaining at BARC 6.

Additional GW investigations and a study of regional groundwater data demonstrated the presence of an upgradient VOC plume that was moving onto the BARC property. The remedial investigation concluded that the offsite PCE and TCE contamination requires no further action from BARC. Therefore, the preferred remedial alternative for the BARC 6 AOC presented in the PRAP is “No Further Action” with respect to soil and “No Action” with respect to GW, Surface water, and Sediment.

In addition to the public meeting, the public is invited to review the administrative record for BARC and submit comments from 5/16/24 to 6/30/24. The PRAP, and supporting investigation report documents, are available for review at the following online location:

**BARC Information Repository:** <https://cercla.ba.ars.usda.gov/advancedsearch> enter “BARC 6”

Questions about the Public Meeting or comment submission on the PRAP may be submitted to:

John Houston, ARS Remedial Project Manager  
Email: [john.houston@usda.gov](mailto:john.houston@usda.gov) Phone: 240-204-3331

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## YARD/MOVING SALES

ESTATE SALE in Bowie – 9 AM to 6 PM on both Saturday & Sunday, 5/18/24 & 5/19/24. Furniture (couches, bookshelves, chairs, TV stands, desks, tables, deck furniture), books, beautiful international artwork and handicrafts, pool table, household items. Children's daycare furniture and equipment. Garden items/tools. Everything must go! 12711 Northcliff Road, Bowie, MD. Call 708-497-5581 with any questions.

BOXWOOD VILLAGE (GREENBELT) COMMUNITY YARD SALE – Saturday May 18 and Sunday May 19, 9 a.m. to noon. Maps with the addresses of ten participating families will be provided at the playground at the corner of Lastner and Ivy Lanes in Greenbelt starting at 8:30 a.m.



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CLASSIFIED: \$3.00 minimum for ten words. 15¢ for each additional word. Submit ad with payment to the News Review office by 6 p.m. Tuesday, or to the News Review drop box in the Co-op grocery store before 5 p.m. Tuesday, or mail to 15 Crescent Rd., Suite 100, Greenbelt, MD 20770.

BOXED: \$10.60/column inch. Minimum 1.5 inches (\$15.90). Deadline 2 p.m. Monday for ads that need to be set up, including those needing clip art and/or borders. 6 p.m. Tuesday for camera-ready ads. Certs and Notarizations each \$10.

NEEDED: Please include name, phone number and address with ad copy. Ads not considered accepted until published.

DROP ads and payments in the mail slot in the exterior door of the News Review office. The door is located to the left of the main entrance on the east side of the Community Center (side closest to Roosevelt Center and the Municipal Building).

ZELLE: The News Review is now accepting electronic payments through Zelle. Find out more at zellepay.com. Customers should direct their payments to business@greenbeltnewsreview.com.

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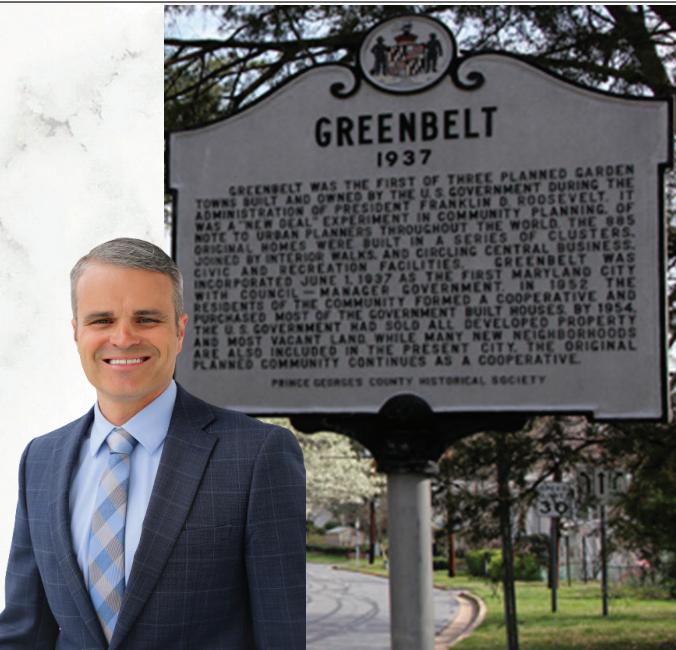
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#1 in Sales for Greenbelt from 2017-2023



## The SPACE: Free Art For All 2024 Programs

Join in commemorating five incredible years and a host of new community partners at The SPACE: Free Art For All. The organization is thrilled to kick off 2024 with an exciting lineup of fresh programs designed to inspire and engage.

Wednesdays: Beginners Music Classes in Ukelele and Keyboards, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Thursdays: Capoeira (Brazilian Martial Arts), 5:30 to 7 p.m.

Fridays: Drum Circles with Rainbow Joe, 7 to 9 p.m.

Saturdays: Yoga with René Hood, 10 to 11:30 a.m.; Expressive Art Workshops, 2 to 4 p.m.

Sundays: Sewing Classes, 1:30 to 3 p.m. Open to all skill levels. A limited number of sewing machines is available; participants can also bring their own.

All classes are not only enriching but also free and open to the public. The program extends a warm welcome for donations to support its community initiatives.

The SPACE is located upstairs in the former Big Lots space at Beltway Plaza, 6000 Greenbelt Road. Details on upcoming events can be seen on Instagram or Facebook @TheSPACEFreeArtForAll. For questions call 240-244-6115.

## LOL STATIONS continued from page 9

operating year-round during the weekdays, and the fun center open on the weekends, is a response to the community's need for reliable and affordable childcare, she says.

The new daycare center has been designed to accommodate around 40 children, ranging from infants to preschoolers. It has four sections, each restricted to a particular age group: one for infants, another for 1- to 2-year-olds, a third for 2- to 3-year-olds, and the fourth for 3- to 5-year-olds. Each is equipped with appropriate games and activities tailored to the children's developmental needs.

"The childcare center is like, 'Wow, ... [wouldn't] it be so amazing and to give young kids and parents and families a place where the kids could create?' And they may not remember it, but the parents will remember it, you know, and they'll remember because of the education we're [going to] give them at a young age, and the love and attention. So, it all rolls together," said Bethea.

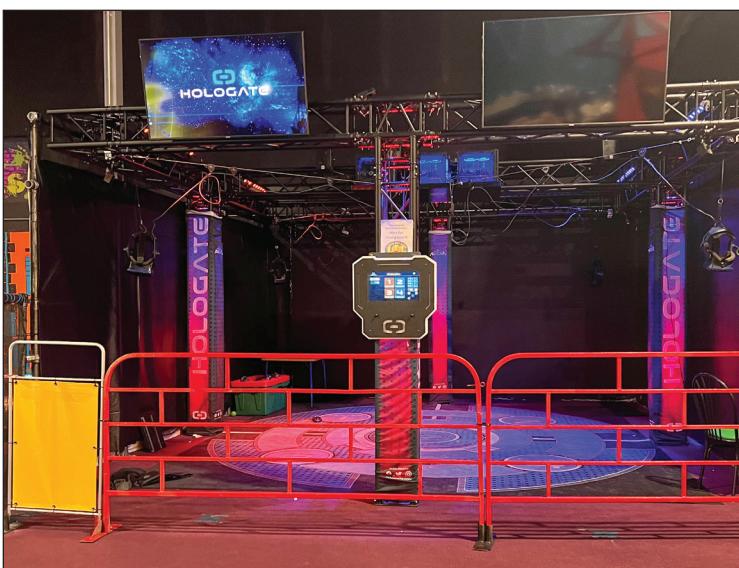


PHOTO BY LAURA CHARLESTON

### The virtual reality attraction

They are now in the final stages of the permit process and will have a virtual zoning hearing on May 22. Bethea is hopeful they will be approved this spring and looks forward to sharing the positive news with the community.

"Because the community

needs childcare, you know, and good childcare," said Bethea. "The community needs a place to play. A great place to play, you know, and we're right here in the heart of Greenbelt."

*Laura Charleston is a student at the Philip Merrill College of Journalism writing for the News Review.*

### Call for Sports News

Do you have Greenbelt sports news to share?

We welcome your photos and stories at [editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com](mailto:editor@greenbeltnewsreview.com).

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2 Bedroom Townhome Large fenced backyard with deck - opens onto community parkland. Energy-efficient Mitsubishi mini-split heat pump/ac system.



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Brick Townhome on Corner Lot Large fenced yard with shed. Refinished hardwood flooring upstairs and new laminate flooring on main level. Nice!

Coming Soon Single-level living. One bedroom lower-level GHI home. Spacious fenced backyard that opens onto trees and parkland. Will sell quickly!

## MARKET continued from page 1

Bakery, El Piquin, Mystic Water Soap, Ferguson Family Farm, Glade Link Farms, Jack Creek Plants and Fajardo's Produce Farm (formerly Pleitez) are all favorites back this year and form the heart of the market, greeting each other and Greenbelt familiars after the winter hiatus.

### Faithful Friends

Of slightly more recent vintage, but now believers, other market stalwarts include King Mushrooms, Roy's Kitchen, Tag Team Kitchen and Woodland Harvest, all of whom have several years of Greenbelting. Returning vendors of more recent vintage also include STRIB'ble Treats from Greenbelt's own LaWann Stribling, plus Puzzle Pieces Dining, Metro Microgreens and Magnolia's Candles and Soaps. Elk Run Vineyards and Jubilee Farm Fermentations provide artisan wine and beer to complement any meal. Mel's Munchies, Plexus Herbs herbal products and Power Ups herbal teas round out the offerings.

### New Kids in Town

Several new vendors add spice to the occasion, in one case literally, with Amity Kitchen bringing the piquant flavors of Thai food. Sweet Intuitions makes their debut with classic global and island flavors and Atwater's Foods brings traditional homemade soup, jam and chicken salad. Also a debutante is Earth's Backyard, focusing on natural growing practices and vegetables and herbs from the African diaspora. Mother Molly's, another new entrant, was inspired by two

great-grandmothers who loved making preserves and jams.

### I Scream Ice Cream

But, as with any festive occasion, one can't leave without ice cream. Back to popular acclaim is a market founder from 2009, Simple Pleasures Artisanal Ice Cream. Terri and Rodney Russell offer special market flavors using fruit sourced from the market and cream from Cloverland Dairy, free of antibiotics, pesticides and hormones.

### SNAP Match

Through the Maryland Market Money program, the Greenbelt Farmers Market will also match up to \$30 in SNAP benefits spent at the market – so a \$10 charge on a customer's EBT card will give them \$20 to spend. Other programs to aid families are described on the market website.

### Schedule Through Fall

The market runs weekly until the week before Thanksgiving, with the exception of Labor Day weekend, when it takes the day off in favor of the Festival. The weekend after Thanksgiving is the holiday market when it welcomes regular and new market vendors on the same weekend as the city's holiday festivities.

### Volunteers Needed

Market Manager Julie Clare and board members Scott Fifield (president), Terry Kucera (vice president), Carissa Ralbovsky (treasurer) and Greg Rusk (secretary) seek additional volunteers for market duties and also those interested in a role on the board. Contact them via the website.



A customer peruses homemade treats at LaWann Stribling's STRIB'ble Treats stall.



A customer selects from a tempting selection of breads at the Greenbelt Farmers Market on Sunday, May 12.

- Photos by Ray Zammuto

# 19th Green Man Festival Fills Roosevelt Center with Cheer

On Saturday, May 11 and Sunday, May 12 the Roosevelt Center was filled with music, dancing, crafts, flowers, food, vendors, advocates and festivities as the 19th Annual Green Man Festival unfolded.

Both days a community drum circle opened festivities. There was a carnival atmosphere of fun with storytelling, fairy gardens, facepainting, a parade, vegan food, environmental advocacy and even a snake amongst the throngs of festivalgoers, many of whom wore fanciful flower crowns or festive garb.

The Green Man was a common figure of Medieval sculpture in Europe and especially England, frequently appearing as a foliated face on the sides of churches there. However, the character is thought to pre-date Christianity and can be found in sculptures in numerous countries and ancient times. In Greenbelt the festival celebrates nature, springtime rebirth and environmentalism. In 2008 the Green Man Festival became a project of the Chesapeake Education, Arts and Research Society (CHEARS), a nonprofit organization dedicated to the health of all who share the Chesapeake Bay watershed environment.



A foliated festivalgoer takes a break.

- Photos by Anna Bedford-Dillow



Michael Cooney with the Greenbelt Honk! Situation enjoys the Green Man Festival last weekend.



There was plenty of dancing and a carnivalesque atmosphere during the festival.



A friendly snake greets interested visitors.